

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1922.

THORPE SEES DRAWBACK IN TEN-YARD RULE AS OBSERVED IN FOOTBALL

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Tad's "Tid-Bits" and "Indoor and Outdoor Sports" are the cleverest presentation of current thought in the world of fun and sports. His humor is clean and scintillating and his word is law in sporting matters.

TEN-YARD RULE WEAKENS OFFENSIVE STRENGTH, SAYS THORPE

By TOM THORP.

Gridiron critics are beginning to wonder why so many of the big eleven are showing so little offensive strength. Some state that it is because the men in charge of these teams are unwilling to take chances. Others lay the blame to the present rule of gaining ten yards in four tries.

To our way of thinking, the latter is correct. Yale, Princeton, Harvard and the other big fellows play just as strong on offense today as they did when more points were being scored. It is a question of defense. Under the present playing code the defense is given too great an advantage over the attack. This is the chief reason why so many persons are asking why the big teams did not score more points.

The greatest example of a defensive organization is Bill Dwyer's Princeton eleven. The Tigers are a scrappy aggregation. They are about the niftiest defensive squad in the history of football. To hold a great Yale team for downs on the one and one-half yard line is a feat worthy of much praise.

After being held in the first period Tad Jones' lads were never able to get their machine working at top speed again. Defense won the championship of the "Big Three" for Princeton.

The Yale-Iowa game at New Haven, the Army-Notre Dame game at West Point, the Pittsburgh-Lafayette game at Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania-Pittsburgh contest at Philadelphia, the Penn State-Pennsylvania battle at Philadelphia, the Harvard-Princeton game at Cambridge, the Harvard-Brown clash at Cambridge, and a score or more of other important struggles on the gridiron this season could be listed as other examples.

In each the advantage of the defense over the attack was so great that few points were scored. It is the same situation as baseball would confront if the pitcher were given a big advantage over the batter.

No one goes to a ball game to see a shutout. Neither do gridiron fans go miles to witness a kicking match with the team receiving the break winning the contest. That is what present-day football brings about, however. A team with a consistent kicker, a good pair of ends and strong defense can hold its own with the strongest aggregation in the country. This has been proved in far too many cases this fall for anyone to doubt it.

Will it continue? That is a question that football fans must answer. If protests enough are made the committee will no doubt decide on a remedy. It appears as if new legislation would be effective if the code were changed to read "ten yards in five tries" or "eight yards in five downs." Either would take just enough away from the defense to even it up with the attack.

Ten yards is just a trifle too much ground for a team to gain in four tries. Against mediocre material a strong aggregation has little trouble in gaining many yards as it develops, and the fact that it is able to gain strengthens its opinion that its rival can only kick when it receives the ball.

A team that first downs can be scored upon under the present rules is one that is seldom able to gain any distance on attack. Under such conditions, the rules give the stronger team a decided advantage over a rival.

The fact that some teams have run up record scores is going to be used by critics as argument why the present code does not take away from the attack any of its strength. This is where they are going to make their gravest mistake. The fact that one team can rough shod over a rival is no reason why the latter should not be offered some protection.

It is not the strong teams that are in need of help. It is the little fellows who have acted as trial horses for the big eleven that are seeking readjustment.

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Indoor Sports

(Copyright, 1922, by International News Service.)

By TAD M'CARTHY STAR IN GREAT WAVERLY DUCKPIN SET

By R. D. THOMAS.

Not content with winning two baseball championships, and making a brilliant effort to capture football laurels, the Waverly athletic club, of northeast, is now the bowling sensation of the day.

In one performance the Waverly bowlers smashed two season's records and came within a pin each of tying two others. Shooting against Dominican Lyceum in the Athletic Club League, Waverly amassed a total of 1751 pins, one of the biggest sets ever rolled in league competition here.

This knocked into a cocked hat the record recently made by the Rathskellers in the District League, 1729, and Waverly, in its third game, fell one pin shy of equalling the Rathskellers' season record of 611.

Harry McCarthy, the Waverly lead-off man, hung up a new season mark for one game when he smashed the maples for a string of 167. Following this with scores of 109 and 121, McCarthy totaled 397 and missed by a single pin the city record for this year, held by Arthur Urban of the District league.

Until McCarthy rolled his sensational score, Urban also held the record for a single game with 164.

McCarthy easily took individual honors in Waverly's brilliant performance, but other members of the team all did well. Hurd, Mayhew, Hagan and Works were in fine form. Singularly enough, Waverly's top-notchers did not take part. Joe Toomey, well known as a ball player, is not only Waverly's star duckpin, but leads the Athletic Club League with the exceptional average of 113.18 for twenty-one games. This comes close to being the top average of the city.

Had Toomey been present, Waverly's team score might have been much higher, for Joe was in rare fettle on the night of the match. He had forgotten Waverly was to roll and gave his services to the Accounting team in the Government Printing Office.

Joe reeled off a game of 161 and a set of 386, both records for the league, that would have fit nicely in Waverly's collection of high scores against Dominican Lyceum. Needless to say, the latter was whitewashed neatly.

Toomey counts on collecting a sizeable lot of cash when the season ends, that would make him a member of an almost certain champion team in Waverly, he looks good to win the individual title of the Athletic Club league and also the Government Printing Office league in which he now has the leading average of 113.18 for twenty-one games. This, not to speak of high game and set in the Government Printing Office league.

Waverly is well out front in the race and gives indication of making a run-way with the championship.

Its record set was rolled on the Dominican Lyceum home alleys at Twelfth and C streets southwest, where last season the Linworths made a team mark of well over 1,700.

Incidentally, Joe Toomey won a turkey offered for high game by the Government Printing Office League. Another Thanksgiving bird will be put in competition shortly, but Joe won't win it.

The league believes it would be virtually the same as presenting the gobble to Toomey to allow him to roll for it, so Joe has been barred.

Varsity and Freshman Squads Will Practice Three Times a Week.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Nov. 24.—Coach Eddie Dollard of the Syracuse University basketball forces today has a squad of 150 men, including 43 varsity aspirants, from which to mould his varsity and freshman quintets.

The varsity and the freshman squads will report three times a week, the varsity on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights and the freshmen on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings.

To develop two fast forwards and an accurate foul shooter for the varsity this season will be Dollard's chief task.

Last year the Orange was weak in foul shooting and resulted in Syracuse losing several close games because of the lack of a good tosser from the foul line.

Seven football players are out by the varsity five. Football Captain-elect Pete MacRae is trying for the center berth that he held so last year; Bill Kellogg, "Gif" Zimmerman, Charley Trost and Hank Greaves—all football men—are seeking the forward positions. "Ribs" Baysinger, another of Coach Meehan's athletes, is a possibility for a berth at any position, as he can play center, forward or guard equally well; David Ziff, end on the football squad, is a candidate for the center assignment.

Bernard Kates, of last year's fast yearling five, reported for practice with his leg braced both above and below the knee. The erstwhile trooper center and forward injured his leg severely in the last game of the season last winter, but the brace enables him to use it about as well as ever. It will not have to be worn all season.

Only one position on the varsity team is certain with the first game just three weeks off. Capt. George Fisher, at guard, is the only man now sure of a berth. While Pete MacRae seems the most likely candidate for center he has plenty of competition and the position is far from cinched. Speculation is useless at this stage of the game concerning the likely personnel of the rest of the team.

Paul Bogatko, captain of the Orange yearling five in 1920-21, who is back in college and reported for the team, is declared ineligible by George E. Thurston, graduate manager of athletics.

FRAZEE SAYS NO BOSTON RED SOX STOCK FOR SALE

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—In an interview today Harry Frazee, owner of the Boston Red Sox, declared that although he was in negotiation with Bill Carrigan and Frank Chance as possible managers of the club for next season, he had not sold any of the stock to Chance, and did not intend to do so.

"Chance has bought no interest in the Boston club and can buy none because there is none for sale," Frazee declared.

Pro Game is Off.

There probably will be no professional game here Sunday, the Baltimore eleven being unable to get away. Baltimore's reluctantly declined Jim Jordan's offer of a game here.

Quints Play Tonight.

The Hilton A. C. and Epworth M. E. basketball teams will meet tonight in the Ingram gym. The lineup: Epworth—Harding and Munroe; forwards: Foster, center: Davis and Byrne, guards: Hilton—Roundish and Dornin, forwards: O'Dea, center: Cardwell and Lehnert, guards.

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Miller Huggins Out To Buy Minor Talent

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—In a letter received here from Milan, Indiana, Miller Huggins, manager of the New York Yankees, has declared his intention of attending the minor league meeting at Louisville, Ky., December 5, for the purpose of corraling minor league stars.

"Bring the doughbag with you," he wrote to Ed Barrow, business manager of the club, "for I am going to need a lot to get the birds I am after."

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BRICKLEY THINKS BUELL PAST SHOWINGS GIVES HARVARD EDGE

By CHARLES E. BRICKLEY.

Former All-American Star at Harvard and the Most Famous Football Player of the Last Decade.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—Basing my prediction on the improved physical condition of Charley Buell and his ability to run the Harvard team better than Neidlinger or any other man figures to direct Yale, I believe that Harvard will be returned the winner in tomorrow's game at New Haven.

I am picking Harvard because I think it is the brainier team and will take advantage of the opportunities presented to it. This should prove a big factor, since neither is a big scoring team and a single touchdown or field goal, the probable result of an opportunity grasped, may separate the teams at the end.

In a previous article I signified my preference for the Army over the navy. I haven't changed my mind, and will not as long as Charley Daly can show me the superiority in his forward line as indicated by the greater speed and unity of Mulligan, Bredster, Gargisch, Goodman and the other important struggles on the gridiron this season could be listed as other examples.

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BROWN FAVORED TO WALLOP OLD RIVAL

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